

DISTRICT **15**ALDERMAN
**RUSSELL W.
STAMPER, II**200 E. Wells St. | Milwaukee, WI 53202 | 286-2659 | milwaukee.gov/district15 | Russell.Stamper@milwaukee.govWINTER **15****Dear 15th District Residents,**

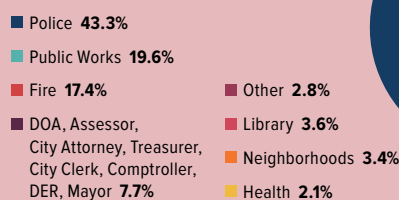
It's the time of year when the common council tackles the biggest job that we face on an annual basis—debating and amending the mayor's proposed \$1.55 billion budget for the 2016 year ahead. In recent budgets, the city has maintained services without significantly raising taxes, even in the face of cuts to our funding by the state government and the devastating effects of the foreclosure crisis. Your input is always critical as we determine which programs and projects to prioritize heading into 2016.

Members of the Finance and Personnel Committee pore over every line item, scrutinizing departments' spending plans and recommending changes that they feel will better serve the community. This process culminated with a meeting of the full Common Council on November 3, during which amendments faced their final approval before members cast a final vote on the proposed budget.

As proposed by the mayor, the budget would hold steady on the city's tax levy, while the tax rate would drop 12 cents, from \$10.71 per \$1,000 of assessed value to \$10.59. As a result, a median-valued home worth \$104,000 would pay \$1,101 in taxes, a decrease of \$13 from last year.

Some items worth noting from the 2016 budget include:

- **\$880,000 to equip all police officers with body-worn video cameras**
- **Ending the cost-saving requirement for police officers to take three unpaid furlough days per year**
- **Requiring police to contribute to their pensions, as other city employees already do**
- **Increasing the police department's sworn strength**
- **Expanding hours of operation at local libraries**
- **Moving forward with plans to replace Forest Home and Mill Road Libraries**
- **Continuing the new trauma-informed care effort, which matches victims of and witnesses to violent crime with the mental health services they need**
- **Adding two Health Department positions to coordinate efforts to address youth violence**

**Tax Levy-Funded Operating Budget:
By Department**

Note: Does not include \$299.66 million of DPW-operated Enterprise Funds (Parking, Sewer, Water). Three departments (DPW, Police, Fire) comprise 80.3% of the 2016 Operating Budget.

- **Quickly re-surfacing 22 miles of streets through the city's high impact paving program**
- **Replacing 15 miles of streets using traditional methods**
- **Directing \$10.9 million toward neighborhood revitalization and stabilization efforts to combat the effects of the foreclosure crisis**

Please contact my office with any questions or concerns by calling **(414) 286-2659** or emailing **Russell.Stamper@milwaukee.gov**.

Thanks,

Russell W. Stamper, II
Alderman, 15th District



IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Keeping it Clean: A 15th District Priority ➤

Clean neighborhoods are the cornerstone of thriving communities. This is a sentiment that Alderman Stamper holds true, as he has been diligent in his efforts to keep the 15th Aldermanic District clean.

Since he was elected in 2015, Alderman Stamper has hosted more than 60 neighborhood walks and town hall meetings intended to identify and address neighbors' issues. And just since April, his district advocacy with the Department of Public Works has resulted in a number of changes within the area, including the following:

- 18 weekend box neighborhood clean-ups
- 5 additional alderman-requested neighborhood clean-ups
- 265 tons of Clean & Green material collected
- 55 calls for action directed to Sanitation for specific constituent concerns
- 3,876 district lane miles have been swept
- 2,765 alley lane miles have been swept

In addition, Alderman Stamper has coordinated clean-ups for more than 100 vacant lots and city-owned buildings. He has been instrumental in bringing city services to areas that desperately need them.

Alderman Stamper is very pleased with the changes that the 15th Aldermanic District has experienced, and he is thankful for residents who have been active in reporting needs within the area. If you know about a sanitation need within District 15, please call Alderman Stamper's office at **(414) 286-2659**. ■



New Playground Equipment Planned for 17th and Vine ➤

A park at N. 17th Street and W. Vine Street will benefit from the citywide MKE Plays initiative to replace deteriorating or outdated playground equipment. Plans are in the works to install new equipment there, using crucial input and participation from residents in the area.

“The spirit of giving back that is driving this initiative is truly inspiring,” Alderman Stamper said. “I’m grateful for the opportunity to rejuvenate this play space for our children while operating in a spirit of inclusive collaboration that brings the neighborhood closer together.”

17th & Vine

Foundation Park

67th & Spokane

Long Island & Custer

21st & Keefe

5th & Randolph

Snail's Crossing

Buffum & Center

DeBack Park

34th & Mt. Vernon

Arlington Heights

Trowbridge Square

Adopted by a unanimous vote of the Common Council, the MKE Plays Initiative aims to create a “bottom-up approach” to replacing aging or obsolete equipment in city-owned play areas. The initiative has raised more than \$1 million in private funding, and seeks to drive playground equipment replacement with input from ad hoc committees selected from the local community.

As part of the initiative, the Department of Public Works assessed dozens of city-owned parks and play areas, selecting 12 that were in the direst need of replacement. Now, the city is seeking private donors to finance the improvements while assembling local committees to determine what sort of amenities to provide. A generous donation from the Zilber Family Foundation laid the groundwork for this process.

To learn more, visit milwaukee.gov/MKEplays. ■



Traffic Calming Devices Promote Neighborhood Safety ➤

Alderman Stamper is pleased to support a new traffic calming initiative in the 15th Aldermanic District. Under the new program, residents are able to petition for traffic calming devices. They are given two choices: a speed hump which costs roughly \$7,000 or a mini-roundabout that costs roughly \$10,000. Each homeowner is assessed a portion of the cost, and the city pays the rest.

“This is a great program because it gives me an opportunity to work directly with homeowners,” said Alderman Stamper. “Together we can assess the problem and fix it fairly quickly, making these neighborhoods safer for everyone.”

Over the past year, Alderman Stamper has lent his full support to the new traffic calming program, and has actively engaged in bringing speed humps to the 15th District including these locations:

- N. 14th St. between W. North Ave. and W. Meinecke Ave.
- N. 15th St. between W. Fond du Lac Ave. and W. Lloyd St.
- N. 36th St. between W. Hadley St. and W. Locust St.
- N. 38th St. between W. Wright St. and W. Clarke St.
- N. 40th St. between W. Center St. and W. Hadley St.
- N. 41st St. between W. Lloyd St. and W. Garfield Ave.
- N. 42nd St. between W. Lloyd St. and W. Garfield Ave.
- N. 45th St. between W. Garfield Ave. and W. North Ave.
- N. 45th St. between W. Wright St. and W. Clarke St.
- W. Clarke St. between N. 47th St. and N. 49th St.

For information about the traffic calming program, email trafficalming@milwaukee.gov. ■

SAFE ZONES Initiative Creates Positive Change ➤

Milwaukee has been marred by the senseless violence affecting residents in our most vulnerable communities. There have been more homicides this year than during any other year in the past decade—many of them shooting deaths. While alarming, these statistics are not a reason to lose hope, but a call to embrace our roles in improving them.

The idea of personal accountability is the foundation of the Safe Zones initiative, a pilot program co-sponsored by Alderman Stamper that launched this summer in order to reduce violence and crime while building stronger communities. The Garden Homes neighborhood was selected for the initiative, and individuals from the community were chosen to be program ambassadors after a thorough screening process in May and early June. Participants were then trained in several areas, including civil rights and dispute resolution.

The Safe Zones ambassadors began working in the community on June 30th by introducing themselves to residents. They went door-to-door polling residents on their neighborhood concerns and accepting recommendations for improvement. In the weeks that followed, the Safe Zones ambassadors achieved the following accomplishments:

- Reduced loitering throughout the community
- Hosted four neighborhood clean-up events
- Resolved five conflicts
- Reduced illegal activity in public spaces, like gambling and prostitution
- Created and circulated a petition to have speed bumps installed in the neighborhood

In addition to these feats, the Safe Zones ambassadors also hosted two block parties and meetings with community residents and stakeholders. Their work has greatly improved relations within the neighborhood, as it has created opportunities for community engagement and has helped create a more secure environment for residents.

Alderman Stamper saluted the Safe Zones ambassadors: “I am extremely proud of the bravery and dedication the ambassadors have displayed in working to improve our city. We are fortunate to have leaders willing to affect positive change right here in their home neighborhood, and their efforts prove that when we all work together, we truly can make an impact within our community.” ■



New St. Ann Center Creates Positive Opportunities ➤

The St. Ann Center for Intergenerational Care at 2450 W. North Ave. opened in September and is already creating positive results in the area.

The new care center committed to hiring more than 200 employees, with at least half of them coming from the surrounding neighborhood. The center's job fair in late June was well-attended by the community, as more than 700 residents, many from the 15th Aldermanic District, showed up to learn more about available opportunities.

“I’m grateful to the St. Ann Center for the commitment to the neighborhood they have demonstrated,” Alderman Stamper said. “The excitement over this catalytic project

is truly contagious, and I hope to see other developments taking place as a result.”

The St. Ann Center is an all-ages care center that is open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. with the goal of preventing the premature institutionalization of the elderly and disabled. It's programs bring children and adults together in mutually-beneficial activities and interactions that allow both parties to learn from each other. ■



Simply call 211 to get help with life.

Cell: (414) 773-0211

Free: (866) 211-3380

United Way of greater Milwaukee & Milwaukee County

Resource Fairs in Promise Zones Help City Neighborhoods ➤



The city's "Promise Zones" initiative is allowing residents in disadvantaged Milwaukee neighborhoods to gain access to valuable resources and information at "My Brother's Keeper" resource fairs hosted throughout the city – including one hosted by Alderman Stamper in September at North Division.

The Common Council approved allocating \$300,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding for the Milwaukee Promise initiative – a multifaceted city effort to address systemic poverty, joblessness, poor health, crime and low educational achievement in city neighborhoods.

The initiative is addressing conditions in four city "Promise Zones" where, combined, more than 45 percent of households make less than \$25,000 annually (compared to 36 percent citywide and 22 percent statewide). More than 56 percent of the local population and more than 71 percent of children in these areas live in poverty.

Alderman Stamper, a co-sponsor of legislation that created the Milwaukee Promise, said the funding provides "a bright flame that can ignite revitalization of neighborhoods and lives" across Milwaukee. "The Milwaukee Promise will foster collaboration among agencies of city government and the development of place-based and data-driven approaches to community revitalization that I believe can transform neighborhoods," he said.

As part of the initiative, Common Council representatives of the Promise Zone areas (Alds. Stamper, Ashanti Hamilton and José G. Pérez) have hosted resource fairs in their districts. At these fairs, hundreds of residents have received help with key life management issues, including child support, driver's license recovery, job training, employment, health screenings and expungement counseling. ■



Nationstar Mortgage Provides \$30 Million to Address Foreclosure Problems ➤

In an effort to alleviate the impacts of the foreclosure crisis, one of the largest Milwaukee area mortgage servicers has agreed to provide the city with \$30 million, comply with initiatives to cut down on blight and meet regularly with customers.

Nationstar Mortgage will make the investment over the next three years, and will provide \$500,000 each year to the city's popular STRONG Homes Loan Program.

"This deal is the first of its kind that Nationstar has reached with a municipality in which it does business," Alderman

Stamper said. "These funds are going to help keep hard-working Milwaukeeans in their homes, they will help eliminate neighborhood decay and they will reduce the burden that foreclosed properties inflict on our city."

Nationstar services mortgages on around 3,400 properties in the city, and about 150 of those mortgages are in foreclosure. Forty-six of those properties have been abandoned, and pose a risk of becoming neighborhood nuisances if they are not addressed.

But as part of the agreement, Nationstar pledged to comply with city foreclosure ordinances intended to prevent foreclosed properties from becoming nuisances, donate foreclosed property to neighborhood groups and hold face-to-face meetings with customers at least three times a year. ■



New Bucks Arena Means More Jobs for Milwaukeeans ➤

A \$500 million construction project to build a new arena for the Milwaukee Bucks will have far-reaching benefits for unemployed and underemployed residents in the City of Milwaukee.

In September, the Common Council voted 12-3 to approve a development agreement with the Bucks that will enable the team to begin construction of a state-of-the-art arena to replace the Bradley Center just north of the current site in downtown Milwaukee. Team officials had said they would consider moving the team to a different city if a deal couldn't be reached, but the agreement will allow the city to continue to benefit from the NBA franchise's presence.

The city will not spend any property tax money to help the Bucks finance the arena.

In negotiations over the project, the city convinced the Bucks to agree that at least 40 percent of the jobs created to build the new arena will go to Milwaukee residents who qualify as unemployed or underemployed.

The agreement also committed \$750,000 to recruiting, training and assisting those workers, ensuring that when work is completed on the new arena, they will be qualified to find work on other construction projects in the future.

"Our deal with the Milwaukee Bucks lets us build even more momentum in the city's development boom, putting Milwaukeeans who need jobs to work and giving them the skills to keep it in the years ahead," Alderman Stamper said.

The deal with the Bucks is similar to one the city struck with Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance over its new 32-story, 550-foot tower downtown. Construction is well under way, and NWM is exceeding its goals—as of last spring, 46 percent of the construction hours were worked by previously unemployed or underemployed Milwaukee residents, and 35 of the 215 city residents working on the project were taking part in an apprenticeship to learn new skills. ■

One Call, That's All

That one number can connect you with 21 departments, 8,800 employees and hundreds of city services, ranging from building permits to parking permission to library hours to garbage pickups.

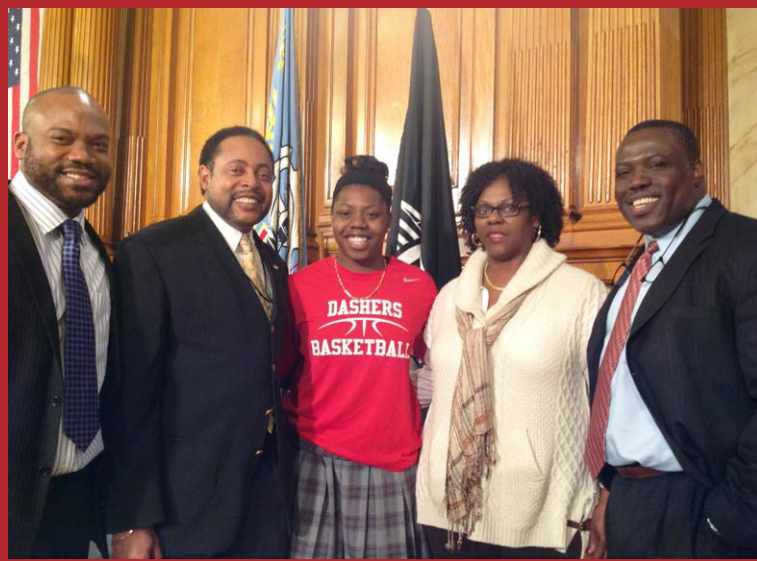
Alderman Stamper says the city continues to seek ways to improve communications with residents, and this one-stop number for city services makes it even easier to find the right department and person to handle your complaint or request.

Of course you can always call Alderman Stamper's office at 286-2659.





Alderman Stamper in the Community



DISTRICT **15**

ALDERMAN RUSSELL W. STAMPER, II



200 E. Wells St. | Milwaukee, WI 53202 | 286-2659 | milwaukee.gov/district15 | Russell.Stamper@milwaukee.gov

WINTER **15**

UPCOMING 2016 ELECTIONS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH

Spring Primary

TUESDAY, APRIL 5TH

Spring General

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9TH

Fall Primary

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH

Fall Presidential Election



If you have any questions, please contact the Election Commission at **414-286-3491** or milwaukee.gov/election.



Russell W. Stamper, II

Alderman, 15th District
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

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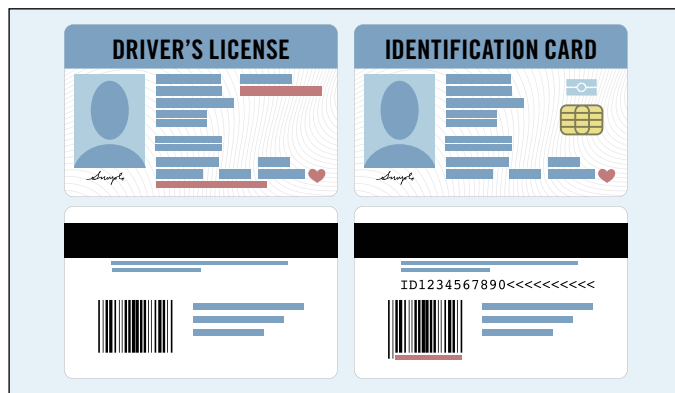
New State Law Requires Photo ID to Vote ➤

Starting with the 2016 Spring Primary Election, all Wisconsin voters must show an acceptable photo ID before voting. This includes voters at polling places and many absentee voters.

- The address on your photo ID does NOT have to be your current address, and the name on your ID does NOT need to be an exact match to your name in the poll book.
- You will need to show one of the photo ID types listed below. Please note that there is no such thing as a "Voter ID Card."

The following photo IDs are acceptable, even if they are expired (as long as the ID did not expire before November 4, 2014).

- A Wisconsin Driver's License, even if driving privileges are revoked or suspended
- A Wisconsin Identification Card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles (available for free)
- A Military ID card issued by a U.S. uniformed service
- A U.S. Passport



NOTE: The Election Commission has additional facts about voter identification requirements that can be found at milwaukee.gov/election. ■

2016 ELECTION: Election Workers Needed



Do you support fair, transparent and accurate elections? If so, the City of Milwaukee Election Commission needs your help.

Visit milwaukee.gov/election and click on the Election Workers tab, where you will also find the application (either an application to print and mail or one to complete and submit on-line). You may also pick up an application at City Hall, 200 E. Wells St., Room 501 or call the Election Worker Coordinator **Dan Puhek** at **414-286-3491** and request an application by mail. ■